

# A More Perfect Union: The Creation of the U.S. Constitution

## Introduction:

1. What prominent figure of the era added a sense of legitimacy to the Constitutional Convention of 1787?

## The Articles of Confederation

2. Summarize James Madison's philosophy of government.
3. What rebellion sprouted from the discontent of early American farmers?
4. What effect did this event have upon the upper-class citizens of America?
5. This fear led to the idea of creating what type of government?

## The Delegates

6. List three influential delegates of the convention from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

## The Virginia Plan

7. What were the basic components (3) of the Virginia Plan offered by Edmund Randolph (VA)?

## The New Jersey Plan

8. Summarize the provisions of the New Jersey Plan offered by William Paterson (NJ).

## The Great Compromise

9. After the passage of the Virginia Plan's population based representation in House of Representatives, what broke the tie in the vote upon the Senate's representation? Describe.

## The First Draft

10. On what date was the Constitution officially signed?

## The Federalists and the Anti-Federalists

11. In the division of philosophies concerning the Constitution's ratification, what did the Anti-Federalists fear?
12. What group of essays responded to these fears? Who wrote them?

## Ratification

13. What became the effective means of getting the last few states to finally ratify the Constitution?

## The Bill of Rights

14. What did the Bill of Rights include? What was the original form of this group? On what date was this promise officially ratified?

Material adapted from the Introduction by Roger A. Bruns to *A More Perfect Union: The Creation of the United States Constitution*. Published for the National Archives and Records Administration by the National Archives Trust Fund Board, 1986.

---

Page URL: [http://www.archives.gov/exhibits/charters/constitution\\_history.html](http://www.archives.gov/exhibits/charters/constitution_history.html)

U.S. National Archives & Records Administration

8601 Adelphi Road, College Park, MD, 20740-6001 • 1-86-NARA-NARA • 1-866-272-6272